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ABSTRACT

The need for church-related colleges to assert their distinctive Christian agenda in the marketplace of higher education is explored. It is noted that the church-related college once followed notions that education should be value free and that academe should be divided into separate disciplines and specializations according to the Cartesian-Newtonian paradigm; this paradigm is critically analyzed. The book is divided into three parts. Part 1 describes what happened after World War II in American society, in the mainline Protestant denominations, and in higher education. It concludes with a critical analysis of the public university, the church-related college, and the relationship between the mainline Protestant denominations and American higher education. Part 2 prescribes a new raison d'etre for the church-related college by pointing it toward basic Christian tenets and toward the post-modern science paradigm, and by asking the church-related colleges to develop a new relationship with America's pluralistic society. Finally, in part 3, the book suggests ways in which church-related colleges can build their programs according to the principles posited, and argues that these colleges must seek to foster the growth of students as whole persons, focusing on their spiritual/moral as well as intellectual development. (GLR)

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